

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Takuya Tamatani et al.	Art Unit :	1644
Serial No. :	10/721,404	Examiner :	Ilia I. Ouspenski
Filed :	November 25, 2003		
Title :	CELL SURFACE MOLECULE MEDIATING CELL ADHESION AND SIGNAL TRANSMISSION		

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 14, 2006, applicants elect the invention of Group XXIX, drawn to the embodiment of claims 53-57 and 60-69. The election is made with traverse.

Independent claim 53 is drawn to a method of identifying a substance that regulates JTT-1 antigen function. The method includes a step of contacting a polypeptide with a “test substance” and a step of determining whether the test substance interacts with the polypeptide. Selected dependent claims limit claim 53 by requiring that the test substance be a low molecular weight compound (claim 57), a polypeptide (claim 58), or an antibody (claim 59). Each of the different test substances recited in the dependent claims has been assigned to a separate restriction group (Groups XXIX, XXX, and XXXI, respectively) in the present Restriction Requirement. However, because “test substance” is a generic term and low molecular weight compounds, polypeptides, and antibodies are merely species thereof, restriction between these different test substances is improper. As a result, applicants respectfully request that Groups XXIX, XXX, and XXXI be joined into a single restriction group and that the full scope of independent claim 53 be examined.

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Attorney Docket No. 14539-004012.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 12, 2006

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